Volume 2, Issue 7 K N I G H T 'S S C R O L L

Black Knight Command Wolfpack/Apache Hammer/BlackJack Phoenix/Chaplain corner FRG Corner Calendars Schedule of Events



BLACK KNIGHT 6



Black Knights,

I want to take this opportunity to wish every one of you a wonderful Christmas holiday this season. Christmas always has a special meaning to Soldiers because this holiday is about sacrifice and humility which are basic tenets of our profession. It is also important because we know that most of us will spend our next Christmas in a distant land defending our way of life and those less fortunate than us. I encourage everyone in the Task Force to take full advantage of this Christmas to spend time with family and friends. In fact, this is the reason why we extended Christmas Block Leave beyond the two-week USAREUR holiday all the way to 5 January. The Brigade wanted to make sure you had an opportunity to return to the US if you so desired.

Once we get back from Christmas Block Leave, we will hit another intense period of training not unlike what we did from August through October. Expect Black Knights to be in the field most weekdays from January through April as we train-up for and then deploy to Hohenfels for our pre-deployment Mission Rehearsal Exercise. There will be some cold, tough days ahead but this is the price we must pay now to make sure that every Soldier deploys to Afghanistan this Summer in absolute top shape and ready to fight

and win on the battlefield. Recognizing that next year will be spent away from our Families, we will do everything we can to protect the weekends (especially MLK and President's Day) during this Winter training density. After we finish this training, we will take another well deserved break in the Spring from 16-24 April. Fortunately, our local DODDS schools have agreed to adjust their Spring break to coincide with this period as well.

I want to take this opportunity to thank CPT Sim and Erica Wood for a wonderful eighteen months at the helm of Team Wolfpack. They have done a superb job. Also leaving us this month is 1SG Kevin and Michelle Jackson in HHC. Job well done and you will certainly be missed here. Finally, in January we bid farewell to Team Phoenix (504th Military Intelligence Company) as they transition over to our sister Engineer battalion, the 9th Engineers "Gilas" in preparation for our deployment to Afghanistan. The Gila battalion has a great team in place and I know you will do well in your new family.

Black Knights-thanks again for everything that you and your Families do to support this Task Force. We have a tough mission in front of us but CSM Parrish and I could not ask for a stronger team of leaders and Soldiers to take into this fight. Enjoy your well deserved Christmas break and come back ready to train hard. Mounted and Ready!

BLACK KNIGHT 7



Maidens, Family and Friends of the Black Knights,

The Holiday season is upon us and with Thanksgiving and Christmas being just around the corner, Knight 6 and our families would like to wish you all Happy Holidays and urge you to enjoy your time off with your Families! Your Black Knights are busy with the ongoing activities of preparation for our summer deployment. They are inventorying equipment, conducting maintenance on vehicles that are being turned in so they don't have to deal with them and can concentrate on training. Speaking of training, Squad Leader Academy is complete and the cross leveling of personnel has begun. Why all this movement? In order to better accomplish the mission and better provide for the welfare for our Soldiers, Knight 6 and I, along with our Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) Knights 5, 3, 37, 1 and 8T looked across the TF and moved personnel so that every company has the same skill sets or "Enablers" which will be important if we find that we are separated geographically in Afghanistan. We want to ensure all assets are spread equally across

the TF and based on what we have now, we've accomplished that. As new personnel arrive they will be assigned as necessary to ensure this mindset is continued.

The day before Thanksgiving will had a "Sports Day" with the Black Knights displaying our athletic abilities as we played Flag Football, Ultimate Football, Softball and show our combative ability with Pupil Stick Fighting! All sporting activities took place at the Grafenwoehr Fitness Center Complex. Families were invited to watch and support your Black Knights and FRGs were invited to support your companies as well!

Thanksgiving Day the Leadership from the 1SGs through Knight 6 and I served lunch at the DFAC. It was nice to serve the soldiers who serves our community.

As always we could not do what we do as well as we do without the dedication and support of our Families and Friends. Thank you for all that you do for your Soldiers, your Company and Task Force Black Knights!

Mounted and Ready!

CSM Malcolm D. Parrish Black Knight 7 Page 2 Knight's Scroll



Family and friends of the Wolfpack:

After a successful deployment and training exercise in Latvia spanning a period of three weeks for most and five weeks for some, the members of the Wolfpack happily returned home to enjoy Halloween with their families. Since then, CPT Gerasimas assumed command of the company from CPT Wood, who will be sorely missed. His wife Erica (a critical part of our FRG) and he will move to their next assignment in Fort Benning, GA. Thanks to them both for their personal sacrifice and commitment to the Wolfpack team! CPT Gerasimas's wife Katie volunteered as the company FRG leader as she shows her dedication to the Wolfpack. November consisted of a mix of tasks related with reorganization of personnel within the Task Force, turn-in of equipment to include all of our tracked vehicles, and tactical training to prepare ourselves for our upcoming mission.

Most recently, the company conducted a rifle qualification range. The Soldiers shot their M4 assault rifles at a range designed to test their accuracy as Infantry marksmen. They engaged targets in the day with their optics and at night with their infrared lasers. The second day consisted of practice at engaging far targets at the ranges of 200m, 250m, and 300m. Our next training event on 30 November - 1 December is a two day course instructing our Wolfpack Soldiers how to be resilient and cope with experiences they may have as Soldiers. The next ranges we will execute are machine ranges on 2-3 December. December holds another Afghanistan focused training event for us. On 6-8 December, the company will train at Bad Reichenhall, Germany, atop an alpine mountain. The skills we hope to obtain include familiarization with operations in a high altitude mountainous environment, cold weather survival skills, and battle drills conducted at the platoon and below. As we execute these ranges and conduct our training, we recognize the importance of our families by making the effort to get Soldiers home at the end of the day. The upcoming training events in early 2011 will require more time in the field for our Soldiers so we try to minimize that overnight field time where we can.

Unfortunately, we must say goodbye to some of our Soldiers and families as our White platoon moves to Blackjack company. They have contributed immensely and a piece of the Wolfpack team goes with them. At the same time, we receive a platoon from Blackjack (formerly their White platoon). Please take any opportunity you may have to welcome these new members of the Wolfpack team, as they have already established themselves with a brilliant showing at the Black Knight Squad Leader Academy and our recent rifle qualification range!

Finally, congratulations to SPC Pena, SPC Zidarich, and SGT Vazquez and their families on the births of their children! We're happy that they're now part of the Wolfpack family. Happy Holiday's!





Greetings Apache Company family and friends!

Training aside, transition has been the theme of late as we welcome some new faces and say farewell to many others. The best part of November for our company was the welcome back of our officers and NCOs from Hohenfels. These leaders were gone for nearly one month training and evaluating our peers from the 170th Infantry Brigade who are set to depart for Afghanistan in the next few weeks. Unfortunately, once these Soldiers returned we had to say goodbye to our Bradley Fighting Vehicles as the Brigade is transforming to a light infantry unit in preparation for its future deployment. As part of this transformation, the Company re-task organized sending White Platoon to Blackjack giving them infantry experience. In turn, we received Blackjack's Red Platoon who add a wealth of deployment experience and leadership to our team. Others faces new to the company are 2LT Warhank, 2LT Wey and wife Mary Anne, and CPL Rose. We will also bid farewell to the following individuals over the next thirty days so make sure you get a chance to say goodbye to them: SFC Wilson, SSG

Burkhard, SGT Keller, SPC Gleason, SPC Boliver, SPC Johnson, CPL Crick, SPC Trubey, SPC Riley, SPC Miller, SPC Washington, SPC Samonte, SPC Kord, and PFC Nolan Johnson.

In terms of training, the company has excelled in all aspects. We had over 70% of the company shoot expert during day and night M4 qualifications and our Soldiers continue to work hard in order to improve their Physical Fitness scores. Additionally, we continue to conduct conditioning ruck marches preparing us for the upcoming Black Knight Fitness Challenge in December. Even with all the training and personnel changes taking place in the unit, we've found a little time to have fun. The Family Readiness Group threw a great Halloween party at the company that had many of our children screaming in the Haunted Maze. ESPN also paid Grafenwoehr a special visit over Veteran's Day weekend broadcasting from the Grafenwoehr Parade Field in order to recognize all those who serve(d). Next on the schedule though is more training. Coming up in December we have three days in Bad Reichenhall, the Bavarian mountains near Austria, where we'll conduct some situational training exercises after we hike up a 1000 meter ascent in 5 kilometers. It should be a great event that will prepare us for the challenges we will face next year in Afghanistan. Last notes are congrats to SGT Solomon Mercer for his promotion to join the NCO ranks, and to all; have a Safe and Happy Holiday.

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HAMMER



Hammer Family and Friends:

November started off with a bang, as our officers and NCOs acting as observer/controllers at JMRC returned to our company. With the company at full strength, we were able to focus first on property accountability. We reorganized or containers and identified excess property. We then turned in all of our tracked vehicles for storage during the deployment. On 22 November, we restructured the unit for light infantry operations in Afghanistan. Our sister companies in the task force moved entire platoons to other companies. Our unit, however, will move only certain mechanics to other companies. Other Soldiers may change job assignments, but not companies. With the unit restructured, we turned our attention to training. Just before the Task Force Organizational Day, our company conducted machine gun training, ensuring that all Soldiers are familiar with the .50 cal and M240B machine guns. Most Soldiers had the opportunity to qualify with the weapons on a two day range, which allowed them to gain confidence engaging targets during both day and night operations. Just before Thanksgiving our Task Force held an organiza-

tional day complete with FRG food and sporting events. Our Soldiers had a great time competing in all the events. Congratulations are in order for the Marks family. On 7 November SPC Marks, our company armorer, and his wife welcomed Remington Danger to their family.

As always, thank you for your continued support of the Hammer Team. We could not do our job without your steadfast dedication and love. STRIKE HARD!

CPT Sam Rosenberg "Hammer 6"

1SG Kevin Jackson "Hammer 7"

BLACKJACK



Greetings Black Jack friends and families!

The month of November was extremely busy; it was filled with lots of intense training and many team building events. November's training included the Black Jack Challenge, Black Jack PT Test, two Machine gun ranges, and culminated with the company deploying to Bad Reichenhall Germany to conduct High altitude training in the mountains bordering Austria. Since we had so much training on the calendar, we decided to see just how much we could do in one month by adding a Black Jack Chili Cook-off, Black Jack Cookbook fund raiser, and finally a Company Dinner Party.

The Black Jack Challenge was a 3 day test of skill and endurance for our Soldiers. It incorporated an army physical fitness test, Stress qualification with their personal rifle as well as a normal qualification using that same rifle. The Soldiers then had to execute a very physically demand-

ing land navigation course which required them to carry a 50 pound ruck sack as they moved to different points over a distance of ten

miles. At each point the Soldiers were tested on Call for Fire procedures, machine gun assembly, and proper Medical evacuation procedures. The Black Jack Challenge culminated with the Soldiers conducting a twelve mile road march with that same 50 pound ruck sack.

The high altitude training in Bad Reichenhall was extremely challenging and beneficial to the company. Each Soldier hiked a mountain trail through thick snow during very harsh wintery conditions to reach an elevation of over 1900 meters in altitude. At certain points the elevation would change 1000 meters over a distance of only 300 meters on the trail! Once the company made it to the top, we had the opportunity to spend a day conducting squad maneuvers. The Soldiers all found it challenging, fun, and very worthwhile. The Black Jack Chili Cook-off was a huge success for our FRG. We



had 15 different crock pots filled with spicy, green, and in one case, cheesy chili! The three judges all took their sheets and went through each sample to determine which three recipes were worthy of a prize. Our first place winner won the commander's parking spot for one week, second place won a fifty dollar gift card and the third place contestant one a free Pilates class.

The capstone FRG sponsored event for November was our Dinner Party. All the Soldiers showed up dressed to impress with their freshly



cleaned Army Service Uniforms (with Bow Tie of course) and their wives or dates were stylishly dressed in cocktail dresses. The event began with pictures, cocktails and the usual conversations addressing seating, hunger and the Disc Jockey's music selection. However, by the time dinner was over and the slight feeling of inebriation settled over the crowd, the fun began. The main event of the evening was the "spin the bottle" version of the Soul Train dance line. Everyone made a large circle on the dance floor, with a bottle in the middle, when the bottle stopped spinning, whoever it pointed at dance in the middle of the circle for an unspecified amount of time. We found out our First Sergeant had some moves he'd been saving for just the right occasion!

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CHAPLAIN'S <u>CORNER</u>

CH (CPT) DONALD W. SMITH

Task Force Chaplain
Task Force 3/66 Armor, 1/72nd Separate Infantry Brigade (SIB)

CH(CPT) Donald W. Smith was born in San Mateo, CA on November 29, 1966 and current home town is Grand Rapids ,Michigan.. He graduated from Los Alamitos High School in Southern California in 1985. From there he graduated from Biola University in 1989 located in La Mirada ,CA majored in Intercultural Studies and World Missions. Chaplain Smith went on to Dallas Theological Seminary and graduated in 1993 with a TH.M in Academic Systematic Theology. Chaplain Smith pursued additional Pastoral Counseling training at Calvin Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Chaplain Smith has been a Senior Pastor and Associate pastor in churches in Illinois and Florida. Chaplain Smith has completed 6 units of Clinical Pastoral Education and served as a Hospital Chaplain for five years in three different hospitals located in Michigan.

CH(CPT)Smith is currently serving as the Battalion Chaplain with Task Force 3-66 Armor, East Camp, Grafenwoehr, Germany as the Task Force Chaplain.

His military schools include Chaplain Officer Basic Training in FT. Jackson SC. Master Resiliency Training in Philadelphia Pennsylvania. ACE and ASIST training.

Chaplain's Smith's awards include the Army Commendation Medal; the National Defense Service Medal; Iraqi Campaign Medal; the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and Combat Action Badge.

CH(CPT) is married to Penelope A. Miller-Smith who is an Elementary School Principal at Hainerberg Elementary School. Chaplain Smith and his wife Penelope enjoy traveling and running races in different countries. Chaplain Smith enjoys a good cup of Coffee and providing care and support for His Soldiers and their families!

PICTURE PAGE





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FAMILY READINESS GROUP CORNER

BLACK KNIGHTS NOVEMBER/DECEMBER FRG NOTES

We want to take this opportunity to $\mbox{\bf CONGRATU-LATE}$ our...

BLACK KNIGHTS 3-66 VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH:

November: Hayley Mills-Reese

December: Jasmine Knell

BLACK KNIGHTS COMPANY VOLUNTEERS OF THE

MONTH: November

Lindsay Arndt (Apache) Angela Thomas (Blackjack) Svenja Michaud (Hammer) Erin Neathawk (Hammer) Gabriela Bonilla (Wolfpack)

NEW LEADERS AND/OR THOSE WHO WENT TO TRAINING

Katie Gerasimas-FRG Leader
Rhonda Brown-Alternate Treasurer
Angelia Frankum-Hospitality Chair
Angela Thomas-Treasurer
Gillian Nickens-Treasurer Alternate
Kiandra Mclean-Treasurer Alternate
* Resiliency Training *

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR NEW BABY KNIGHTS!

James Arley Napier born to Sarah & James Napier on November 16th. Aiden Michael Wilson born to Kimberly and Vernon Wilson on November 8th.

Remington Danger Marks born to Sarah and Oliver Marks on November 7th.

Jayden Pena born to Maria and Antonio Pena on November 18th. Celine Charlene Hiler born to Oksana and Micheal Hiler on November 27th

Joseph Eli Snyder born to Michelle and Christopher Snyder on November 24th

Leah Lucille White born to Patricia and Joshua White on December 6th

Alivia Elena Gonzalezpalmores born to Norma and Jose Gonzalezpalmores on December 3rd.

Upcoming Events:

MRT Training Available Dates: January 11-12 (Tuesday-Wednesday) at the USO 0900-1700 Please sign up with the FRSA at Jessica.pruitt2@eur.army.mil Let it snow! Sharon and I hope you are enjoying this winter weather and seeing the beautiful sites in Germany.

Your generous contributions to the orphans is giving them a merrier Christmas-thank you!

Thank you, <u>Jasmine Knell</u>, for the time you spent coordinating and working the gift wrapping time slots at the PX through the Red Cross. We also appreciated your helpers: <u>Halli Peil</u>, <u>Lynn Lauer</u>, and <u>Heather Wieczorek</u>. The money raised will be for the Volunteer appreciation event in the spring.

We also want to thank the <u>Friends of the Black</u>
<u>Knights</u> for their generous contribution of toys for the orphans
AND for the \$150 gift certificate to the commissary.
You all definitely work hard to give our Families in the Task
Force a better life. Congratulations, <u>Camilla Wik</u> and <u>Carmen</u>
<u>Smith</u>, on being voted in as the new president/vice-president of
the FBK!

It was difficult to say goodbye to <u>Erica Wood</u>, our Wolfpack FRG leader, because she has done such an outstanding job. However, we are happy to welcome new Wolfpack FRG leader, <u>Katie Gerasimas!</u> Thank you, Katie, for the work that you have already put into making Wolfpack's FRG successful.

. We both want to encourage you if you have not done so already, to take the Resiliency Training class offered. The skills learned will be useful during the upcoming deployment. Remember, your spouse gets the day off of work if you are in need of childcare. Thank you, Mimi Knight, for teaching many of these classes!

Sharon and I look forward to seeing you at your company Christmas parties and wish you the best Holiday Season!

Have a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! Jennifer and Sharon Your Black Knight FRG Advisors

Etiquette...

Have you ever been invited to an event and there is R.s.v.p. on the

Invitation? Have you ever planned an event at home or at a restaurant, you need to know how many will attend so you can have enough food and drinks or if at a restaurant you need to let the restaurant know how many will be attending. So please be kind and the next time you received an invitation in the mail or e-mail and it has a R.s.v.p. date and contact person please reply before the date listed in the invitation. It is hard to plan any event even harder if you do not know how many are coming.

R.s.v.p stands for the French phrase, Réspondez s'il vous plait, which translates to "Please reply" or "A reply is requested".

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December 2010



| _ | 1 | 1_ | | _ | | |
|-----|---|---|---|--|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | 1 EFMP Free Bowling Vilseck Bowling center | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | | | MRT |
| 5 | 6 Point of contact Training 1000-1100 Graf Chapel | 7 HHC FRG MTG 1830 A 2-28 FRG MTG 1830 Bravo Co. FRG MTG 1830 | 8 FRG Leadership F.U.N. | 9 A 1-2 FRG MTG 1800 Bldg. 912 | 10 | 11 |
| | Annex | 504th MI FRG MTG 1800 Holiday Tree lighting 1700 PX parking lot | Portfolios @ 0930-1130 Vilseck Bldg . 322 | | | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | | AFTB Level III 0900-1400 Vilseck Bldg. 221 room 206 | AFTB Level III 0900-1400 Vilseck Bldg. 221 room 206 | EFMP Free Bowling Main post bowling center AFTB Level III 0900-1400 Vilseck Bldg. 221 room 206 | | Block Leave begins Dec.18—Jan.5 |
| | MRT | MRT | | | | |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 EFMP Movie Bash 1600-1800 Vilseck Theater | 24 Christmas Eve | 25 Christmas |
| | | | | | ** | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| | | | | | New Years Eve | |
| | | 77 | lerry istma | | | |
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| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| | | | | | A H | 1 HAPPY VYEAR | | | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 Block Leave ends Dec.18—Jan.5 EFMP free bowling 1600- 1800 Rose Barracks Bowling Center | A 2-28 FRG MTG 1830 Bravo Co. FRG MTG 1830 Special Education Work- shop 1500-1630 Main Post Bldg 244 Rm 219 | 7 | 8 | | | |
| 9 | 10 FRG Basic Course Jan 10-12 0900-1400 Main Post Chapel | HHC FRG MTG 1830 A 1-2 FRG MTG 1800 504th MI FRG MTG 1800 Pet Working Group 1030- 1130 G500 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | | | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 EFMP 101 1530-1700 Rose Barracks Bldg 322 FRG Leaders Forum 0930 -1130 Rose Barracks rm 322 | POC Training 1000-1100 Rose Barracks Bldg 322 | 20 EFMP free bowling 1600- 1800 Main post Bowling Center | 21 | 22 | | | |
| 23 | 24 CARE TEAM Training 1000-1130 Main Post Chapel | 25 AFTB Level I 0900-1430 Rose Barracks Bldg 221 | 26 AFTB Level I 0900-1430 Rose Barracks Bldg 221 | 27 Community Huddle 1130- 1300 Tower Inn | 28 BN FRG Steering Committee Meeting | 29 | | | |
| 30 | 31 | 4 | HAPP | | | | | | |

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FRG SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 16 DEC 1800 **HHC Christmas Party Graf Tower Inn** 16 DEC 1400 A 1-2 Christmas Party USO • 16 DEC Bldg. 910 1600 A 2-28 Christmas Party 16 DEC Bravo Christmas Party 1530 504th MI Christmas Party • 16 DEC 1700 USO 06 JAN 1830 A 2-28 FRG Meeting Bldg. 910 • 06 JAN 1830 Bravo FRG Meeting Bldg. 911 504th MI FRG Meeting **11 JAN** Bldg. 636 1800 Chapel Annex **HHC FRG Meeting** 11 JAN 1830 11 JAN A 1-2 FRG Meeting Bldg.912 1830 **COMMUNITY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS** 16 DEC School Early Release Community Wide Community Wide 20 DEC- 02 JAN Winter Recess **EFMP Free Bowling** Rose Barracks bowling 05 JAN 1600-1800 1500-1630 Special Education Workshop 06 JAN Bldg. 244 Main Post Main Post Chapel Annex 10-12 JAN 0900-1400 FRG Basic Course Community FRG Meeting Community Wide/ 11 JAN 1800-2100 NCDC G500 11 JAN 1030-1130 Pet Working Group 13 JAN Parent Teacher Conference Community Wide Bldg. 322 Rose Barracks **18 JAN** 0930-1130 FRG Leader Forum Bldg. 322 Rose Barracks 1530-1700 EFMP 101 **18 JAN** Bldg. 322 Rose Barracks **19 JAN** 1330-1430 EFMP Council 1000-1100 Point of Contact Training Bldg. 322 Rose Barracks 19 JAN 20 JAN Mail Post bowling center **EFMP Free Bowling** 1600-1800 Care Team Training Main Post Chapel Annex 24 JAN 1000-1130 Bldg. 221 Rose Barracks 25-26 JAN AFTB Level I 0900-1430 Tower View Restaurant **27 JAN** 1130-1300 Community Huddle